

Opera Star to Appear on January 9

Robert Merrill, leading baritone of the Metropolitan Opera, will present the second program in the series of Community Concerts, at 8 o'clock, Saturday night, January 9, in the Joplin High School auditorium. Junior College students will be admitted upon presentation of their activity tickets.

Music students recently questioned the singer as to the chief requirements for success in opera. "Three," replied Merrill. "Voice, temperament, and work." He told them that one must have a flexible voice, with sufficient power, quality, and range to carry operatic roles; a feeling for character, a love of working with people, and an ability to take directions. "To be good in opera," he emphasized, "you have to love the theatre, and be willing to go through endless rehearsals, adjusting every detail of your part to the show as a whole."

Merrill takes his own advice. After going over the music several weeks, the singer reads the text of the whole opera, digests the character and plot and feels the

Cash Wins Spot On All America

Jim Cash, 6-foot, 2-inch, sophomore center from Neosho was named to the Wigwam Wisemen College football team November 17, Coach Dudley Stegge announced recently.

Cash's selection made him eligible to participate in the annual East-West Junior College all-star game at Albuquerque, New Mexico, December 12. Cash, however, failed to be nominated to the Juco classic.

Stegge announced that 133 players, from all over the country, were named to the All-American eleven, but only 44 players were asked to participate in the Albuquerque game.

The 19-year-old Cash completed his second year as first string center for the Lions during the 1959 season.

The 203-pound Neosho product is the sixth J.J.C. gridder to be nationally honored in the last few years. Bill Kelley, an end on the 1957 squad, was named to both the Wigwam Wisemen team and to the Williams' Rating System all-star team. Bob Speedy, Lion halfback in 1956, and H. B. Davis, powerhouse fullback for the 1958 team, also received Wigwam Wisemen recognition. Myrl Gunn, fullback on the 1957 squad, was selected on the National Junior College Athletic Association's All-America team.

personality he is to portray. After he has achieved success in a role, he reads a few historical novels of the period, just for atmosphere and a deeper understanding of plot and character.

In the summer of 1953 he went to Mexico to sing in the Mexico City Opera. While there, he took bullfighting lessons polishing up for his role as Escamillo in "Carmen." He says, "In opera there is no end to study—but it's worth it!"

'The Lion's Tracks' To Appear Dec. 18

As Christmas draws near, many want to know their friends' addresses and telephone numbers. To make information easier to find at all times, a Student Senate committee has been compiling names and addresses of students and faculty members for the annual publication, "The Lion's Tracks."

Any student may obtain a roster free of charge after December 18 in the first or second floor corridor.

Phillip O'Hare has served as chairman of the committee. Members working with him are Gayle Prigg, Judy Allen, Nancy Welch, Cindy Hayes, Kenneth Archer, Joy Roper, Patsy Pelot, Kay Kaltenbach, and Donna Smith.

Lions Place Nine On All-Star Team League Elects Dean Conference President

Joplin Junior College placed an all-time high of nine men on the Interstate Conference's 1959 all-star football team December 2, to dominate completely the poll taken by officials and coaches of the circuit. The six-team league also elected Dr. Maurice Litton president of the conference.

The Lions placed quarterback Jim Hayslip, halfback Leon Glover, end Ronnie Rhea, tackle John Powell and center Jim Cash on the conference's first team. Joplin also dominated the league's second team with four more players.

The second team members are quarterback Carl Wilson, end David Teagarden, tackle J. D. Love, and guard Bob Brown. Wilson was elected captain of the second unit.

Officials named Colonel John Groleveck, of Kemper Military Academy, secretary of the league.

On the agenda of the meeting was the awarding of the Conference's 1959 championship trophy to the Lions. It was the third time, in as many years, that the Lions have captured the conference championship.

Thespians to Present 'And It Came to Pass'

The College Players presentation "And It Came to Pass" will be given for the Christmas assembly December 18.

The experimental concert reading telling the story of the nativity in scripture and verse was produced for the first time December 2 at the Community Church, and is scheduled for presentation December 14 for the American Association of University Women.

Students taking part are John Anderson, Mary Baum, Coleen Campbell, Gene Chrestensen, Bonnie Cogbill, Rebecca Doolen, Conrad Gubera, Judy Griffis, Jane Hillhouse, Shirley Hilliard, Galen Irwin, Jim Lobbey, Nancy Mapes, Barbara O'Hara, Carol Sapp, Marjedene Spittler, and Linda Williams.

New Club Assists Students in Math

The newly formed Mathematics club met last Tuesday for a general discussion of the various number systems.

Harold Manker and Miss Martha McCormick realized the necessity of the club to inform students of the things that they should know and which the instructors do not have time to cover in class. The club plans to delve into a more general form of mathematics than that of the Engineers' Club.

The sponsors say that the discussions will be elementary and that anyone having taken College Algebra, or now taking it, will not have too much difficulty. Anyone interested is invited to attend the sessions in Room 122 during the fifth period on Tuesday.

Religious Week Will Feature Many Activities

"Faith—Understanding—Cooperation" will be the theme of the Religious Emphasis Week January 11-15. The purposes of the observation, sponsored by the Student Senate, will be to arouse an interest in religion and to become acquainted with various denominational beliefs. Joan Petty, chairman of the committee arranging details, has announced that a program for all students will be given each day.

Monday, the Circle K Club will present gospel quartets.

Tuesday, the Y.W.C.A. will sponsor Protestant Day, with the Reverend E. Weldon Keckley delivering the message.

Wednesday, the Beta Beta Beta sorority will sponsor Catholic Day, with a featured speaker.

Thursday, the Student N.E.A. will sponsor Jewish Day, and a speaker. That night the film "Quo Vadis" will be shown.

Friday, the Student Senate will sponsor a program to be announced later.

Capture Yule Spirit In Pre-Holiday Sing

Joyful sounds will bounce and resound between 12:20 and 12:40 next Friday, December 18, as vacation-minded students gather around the piano in the corridor for the annual Christmas carol singing. Members of the music department will distribute song sheets and candy.

School will be dismissed after that day until January 4.



Tidings to All

"And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people." These words spoken almost two thousand years ago, should have renewed meaning for the world in these days of interplanetary explorations. The same research that develops satellites gives additional emphasis to the danger of total earthly destruction.

Christians should recognize the irony of geographical locations. The quotation from St. Luke, uttered and recorded in the Mediterranean area, faces a severe test in the Middle East. All European nations and most Asian nations are in constant danger. They face the peril of being literally eliminated. Most of their personal freedom was lost long ago.

During the Christmas season, and other seasons, the individual must face his own personal God, must do as his own conscience dictates. But Christians everywhere cannot ignore the consequences of closing their eyes, or of turning their heads and pretending to ignore the moral issues involved.

Since the United States considers itself a Christian nation, the citizens of this country must act in a Christian manner if they expect to retain the respect of the civilized world. This country must take the lead in another try for world peace. Christmas 1959 presents an appropriate time to renew attempts at peace.

—A. S.

Nice to Know

Jim White

If baffled with a problem, accounting major Jim White just gets a basketball and dribbles circles around it. This reveals Jimmy's secret, a cooperative combination of sports and studies to make a well-liked, well-rounded student.

The sports-minded boy is quite serious about a business career. When asked if he wants to be a C. P. A., he answered, "Well, doesn't everyone?"



However, since coming to Junior College from Aurora, Jim has contributed in basketball, football and golf. Basketball seems to be his true game. With speed as an asset, he has lettered four years in basketball. The lively Juco guard was chosen to play on the All-Conference and Conference Tourney team. In golf he has placed as a medalist in the Inter-State Conference and in the "Big Nine" Conference.

During the summer months, Jim relaxes from the routine of college life with more sports—baseball, fishing, tennis. All come in between summer work. After many years of Little League ball, he now plays with the Ban Johnson League in the summer.

Jim's high school honors are no less impressive. In basketball he made the first team in the "Big Nine" Conference for two years and also the All-Southwest team, which was picked in Joplin. He was selected for the All-Ozark football team and received Honorable Mention in All-State football.

As an after thought, Jim added, "Oh yes, I ran the mile in track, but didn't do anything." He lettered in track three years.

With all Jimmy's sports background, he is bound to bowl over the business world, tackle any obstacles with zeal, guard his interests well, and sink an easy victory.

Rose Wood

Who says it's a man's world? Certainly not Rose Marie Wood, pretty and ambitious sophomore who is enrolled at Junior College as a math and science major. The fact that there are only two or



three other girls in many of her classes doesn't appall Rose. It only spurs her to do justice to the "fair sex" and to remove completely that long-outmoded connection between beauty and empty-headedness.

The Webb City graduate and

Part of the joy of Christmas comes from sharing our happiness with friends and loved ones. Although a plump turkey, crackling with tangy golden dressing and bursting with tempting aromas, delights the eye and palate, thirteen veterans maintain that even such delicious food will not compensate for just spending Christmas at home.

Three of the men have spent Christmas aboard ship. In fact, Larry Meacham spent five of them at sea. He recalls one holiday in the Korean area when the crew brought some orphans aboard and gave them candy and clothing, with the bosun playing Santa Claus.

Floyd Hood has also observed one Christmas at sea in the Korean area. Because of the war, his vessel went on with its regular mission, pausing only long enough for brief church services and the traditional feast.

Paul Reed's ship hit a storm west of the Panama Canal zone early Christmas morning 1944. Since the boat had hit a depression or "trough" in the waves, it rolled and pitched so violently that the men spent the whole day in life jackets. Paul says, "That day I wondered if I would ever see home again." He explains that the men had to eat turkey standing at the tables, tray in hand, to keep food off their laps. Though the ship didn't have religious services during maneuvers, the sailors gathered in groups, singing carols and reminiscing.

Give Orphans Party

Nine have spent Christmas on various parts of terra firma, from the Aleutians to Italy. Bob Blankenship and Phillip O'Hare remember that their bases in Japan and Okinawa, respectively, had

salutatorian plans to go into some field of chemistry. She dreams of doing research, but concedes that it is far in the future.

Along with calculus and quantitative analysis, which Rose admits are her most difficult and time-consuming subjects, she takes psychology and state government.

A member of Phi Theta Kappa for two years, the dark-haired co-ed also belongs to College Players and the Chart staff. Her active interest in dramatics follows ten years of speech work in Webb City, including roles in almost every high school production.

Rose Marie works on week ends as a checker at Thriftway Market, and, though her schedule is very full, she spends every Sunday morning corralling 16 "harem-scarum, delightful" first graders who belong to her Sunday School class.

"I love working with children," commented Rose, "but you would be surprised at how much time and preparation it takes to bring something to the children that will interest them and hold their attention."

A fine student, a lady, and someone nice to know is Rose Wood.

Christmas Away From Home



Like many veterans overseas, James Freeman plays American style St. Nicholas for unfortunate children.

parties for homeless children, presenting them gifts, ice cream, and turkey.

Jim Freeman's squadron in Germany also adopted an orphanage of children. Jim in a beard and red suit played Santa Claus but remembers his competition with Father Christmas, the German St. Nicholas.

"He was a tall thin man with a long, white beard and a cane, dressed like a wise man. He was given half of the program and I the other half."

Unlike most veterans who had turkey as the main course, Jim Browning mentions that he had pizza, prepared from an American recipe by Italian cooks in the small village of Aviano, Italy. He recollects that a manger scene rested on the table of their eating quarters and that orange and black ribbons hung from the ceiling. These colors were the only ones available to the natives who were decorating for the occasion.

Carl Swanson notes that the Christmas when he was stationed at Camp Pendleton, California, took on a religious meaning. He had been feeling dejected because his buddies were shipped overseas without him. Later, however, he heard that some of them had been killed and realized how lucky he was to be alive.

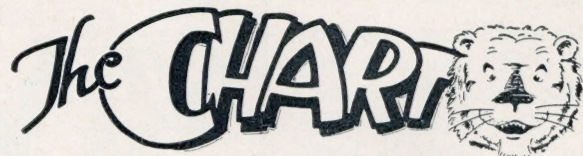
Had to Work

Some of the men had to continue on base with the day's work as usual, but all had a feast: Jim Daugherty in Japan; Phillip Hazlett, England; Maurice Williams, Battle Creek, Michigan; Otis Baker, China Lake, California; and Morris Sweet, Adak, Aleutians.

When asked how the natives celebrated Christmas, only a few veterans were in a position to comment. Jim D. explains that the Japanese who worked on his base exchanged presents, but didn't enter into the religious aspects of the holiday.

Jim B. observes that his experience indicates that "Commercial Christmas in Italy is almost nonexistent. Christmas is another day of worship. The people's attitude is serious, not festive. They don't give gifts because they couldn't afford to." On the other hand, Phillip H. says that the English people invited servicemen into their homes, and celebrated the day much as we do in this country.

Jim B. maintains: "There is just no comparison between Christmas in the service and Christmas at home because at home there are family, friends, and a spirit of giving." All the veterans agree that no matter how interesting their travels might be, home is still the best place at Christmas.



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Action-Filled Motion Picture To Portray Faith of Christians

On the night of January 14, the Student Senate will present the motion picture "Quo Vadis," based on the novel of the same name. Written by Henry Sienkiewicz, the vivid, historical story takes place in 64 A.D. in Rome.

As the author tells the story, Vinicius, a young patrician, returns to Rome and calls on Petronius, his influential uncle, who is a friend of the Emperor Nero, though Petronius dislikes Nero, thinking him conceited, brutal, and thoroughly evil. Petronius is happy to see Vinicius, who has fallen in love with Lygia, daughter of a foreign king. Vinicius asks the help of Petronius so that he may win Lygia for his wife.

At a wild orgy in the palace, Vinicius attempts to make love to Lygia. Acte, a faithful Christian friend, rescues Lygia who is a Christian and afraid of the lust of Vinicius and Nero. Acte and his Christian friends take her outside the city walls to live in a Christian colony.

Vinicius is furious. By pretending to be a convert, he learns where the Christians meet in secret. One night with Croton, a giant, and Chilo, a Greek philosopher, he attempts to seize the girl, but Lygia's slave kills Croton and wounds Vinicius.

Vinicius has to stay with the Christians until his wound heals. Lygia takes care of him and soon he is impressed by their forgiveness and Christian philosophy. After several weeks, Vinicius accepts Christianity and he and Lygia are married.

When Nero goes to Antium, the noble Tigellinus plants in his mind the idea that he should burn Rome in order to write and sing a poem about the tremendous catastrophe. The populace is angry and violent after his destruction of Rome. Rebellion is in the air, so the Empress and the Jews at court persuade Nero to blame the Christians for the fire.

Vinicius and Lygia escape to Sicily. When Petronius hears that

the Emperor has ordered his own death, he holds a banquet and reads accusations against Nero. Then he and Eunice, a slave who loves him, stretch out their arms to a physician and bleed to death in each other's arms.

Hated more than ever, Nero returns to Rome. He hears that his death has been decreed and starts to kill himself. But he is too much of a coward, and finally, when soldiers approach to arrest him, a slave thrusts the fatal knife into the Emperor's throat.

Alumni Visit J.J.C.

Several former students were on campus during the Thanksgiving holiday. Among them were Mary Curtis James, Robert Johnston, Richard Stocker, and Gwen Theis from Southwest Missouri State; Donna Engle, Sondra Gumm, and Glenn Meadows from the University of Kansas.

Donna works on the society staff of the University paper, the Daily Kansan. Sondra was one of 13 finalists in the military ball queen contest.

Musicians Introduce Student Compositions

Four original compositions were featured at the student recital for December. Mrs. Doris Dolence composed a flute solo presented by Doris and Jeanne Moore. Doris also played a piano solo written by Virginia Monteith. Bill Thomson played his original piano solo. Larry Sanborn and Dennis Spille sang a composition written by Dennis.

Others presenting numbers were Virginia Monteith, Sallye Elliff, John Sehnert, Mary Sue Calvin, Lorraine Barnes, and the girls ensemble.

St. John's Organizes Recreational Group

St. John's new book club is rehearsing a Christmas cantata. The extra-curricular group recently gave two one-act plays for the entertainment of other student nurses.

Betsy Steele is president and Margaret Summers reporter of the organization.



Future Events

- Monday, Dec. 14—Chanute basketball game, here
- Tuesday, Dec. 15—Y.W.C.A. caroling
- Friday, Dec. 18—All school caroling. Assembly second period Beta dance
- Saturday, Dec. 19 — Christmas Holidays begin
- Monday, Jan. 4—Classes reconvene
- Wednesday, Jan. 6—Coffeyville basketball game, there
- Saturday, Jan. 9—Kansas City Junior College basketball game, here
- Monday, Jan. 11—Arkansas freshmen basketball game, here Religious Emphasis Week begins
- Thursday, Jan. 14—"Quo Vadis" motion picture
- Friday, Jan. 15—Religious Emphasis assembly
- Monday, Jan. 25—Final Examinations begin
- Monday, Feb. 1—Sophomores register
- Tuesday, Feb. 2—Freshmen register
- Friday, Feb. 12—Crossroads Ball

Appreciation Class Hears Modern Jazz

The music appreciation class listened to a session of live jazz last Tuesday. Local musicians played several selections in both jazz and blues styles, and answered requests from the class members. They also explained modern arrangements.

Those playing were Eldridge Martin, piano; Glenn Davis, drums; Bill Pierson, trumpet; and Bill Thomson, a member of the class, bass viol.

Sorority to Sponsor Dance December 18

The Beta Beta Beta sorority is planning an all school dance next Friday night in the College cafeteria. Mrs. Mary Kirk Kelly, sponsor of the organization, has announced that Max Brown's band will play from 9 p.m. to midnight. All members are selling tickets.

Engineers Make Tour Of Rocketdyne Plant

The Engineers Club took a guided tour of the Rocketdyne plant last Wednesday to study missiles and their operation.

Upon arriving, they viewed a ten-minute film from Cape Canaveral, Florida, showing the firing of intercontinental ballistic missiles. After it was over, a Rocketdyne bus took them through the plant. They were shown a control center for missiles, where a digital computer was demonstrated.

Y.W.C.A. Members To Carol Tuesday

The Y.W.C.A. Cabinet invites anyone interested in caroling next Tuesday night to meet at 7 o'clock at the College that night. The group plans to sing to shut-ins of the community.

Members of the club are cooperating in a progressive dinner before their singing tour.

Circle K Sponsors Radiothon to Help Muscular Dystrophy; Initiates 11 Members

The Circle K Club of Joplin Junior College sponsored a 24-hour Radiothon over WMBH Friday and Saturday, November 27-28, in behalf of muscular dystrophy. Several members of the Club spun records and plugged muscular dystrophy from 6 o'clock Friday morning until 6 o'clock Saturday morning. All contributions were mailed to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation by the listening audience.

Circle K members who participated in the broadcasts were Carl Campbell, Galen Irwin, Paul Stubblefield, Bob Grooms, Buddy Ball, Jim Lobby, Douglas Cates, Rex Erisman, Bill Thomson, Ken Archer, Dick Billingsly, Ronnie Camp, Bob Brown, and Joe Clinton.

Eleven members were initiated into the Circle K Club Wednesday by Douglas Cates, president. The four sophomores received were Rex Erisman, Bob Grooms, Wesley Tyree, and Bob Blankenship. The seven freshmen initiated were Martin Brown, Bill Gammill, Carl Campbell, Kenneth Archer, Galen Irwin, Standlee Steenrod, and Ronald Camp.

Ritchie Emphasizes Import of Numbers

"When there is no progress in the number theory, there is no progress in science," Everett Ritchie, senior scientist at Eagle Picher announced to history, science, and math students in his speech "The History of the Development of Science."

"The history of numbers," he added, "began close to 5000 B.C. in Macedonia and Babylonia." He depicted ancient methods of counting which included finger counting, beads on strings, cutting or notching, and knot tying.

Ritchie declared that as long as we have large gaps in the number theory, science will continue to develop.

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25 Lions Receive Football Letters

Coach Dudley Stegge announced recently that 25 Joplin Junior College gridders and student manager Jerry Chew have been awarded letters for the 1959 football campaign. The lettermen:

JOPLIN—Buddy Ball, Bob Brown, J. D. Love, Ron Rhea and Larry Moore.

NEOSHO—Freddy Campbell, Jim Cash, Leon Glover, Charles Hammer and David Teagarden.

CARTHAGE—Ralph Cortez, Leonard Greninger, Jim Hayslip, Paul Rohmaller, and Max Sweezy.

GALENA—John Hutto, Don Montee and Jackie Shallenburger.

CARL JUNCTION—Everett Bartley, Dennis Moss and Carl Wilson.

WEBB CITY—Dan Crutcher and John Powell.

AURORA—Jim White.

TYLER, Texas—Bill Anderson

The provisional lettermen are Lang Franks and Bill Hodges, Neosho; Gary Goswick, Webb City; Harry Smith, Carthage; and Don Poe, Joplin.

Staff Attends Annual Event in Columbia

Dr. Maurice Litton, C. C. Cowan, and Mrs. Lillian Spangler represented Joplin Junior College at Junior College Day sessions on the University of Missouri campus December 5.

"General Education in an Age of Specialists" was the main theme of the two morning meetings. After lunch, interested groups pursued the discussion. Mrs. Spangler served as chairman for the Foreign Language group.

Lions Lose Out In Junior College Cage Tournament

Bacone Indian School of Muskogee took advantage of the Lions' scoring lapses Thursday, December 3, and handed the J.J.C. cagemen a 72-47 defeat in the opening round of Northeastern Oklahoma A & M College's tenth annual All-Junior college basketball tournament at Miami. The loss threw the Lions into the consolation division games Friday, December 4.

Friday afternoon, however, the Lions looked like an entirely different team. They ran their pass and go offense to perfection, breaking clear for several short jump shots to overcome Northern A & M of Tonkawa, 72-67. The victory boosted the Lions into the consolation finals against Oklahoma Military Academy Saturday, December 5.

In the consolation finals Saturday, December 5, the Lions lost out to Oklahoma Military Academy of Claremore, 84-70.

Young Democrats Begin Activities

Conrad Gubera, president of the Young Democrats, has announced that the group attended the Joplin City Council meeting Monday night. He said that was the first project for the club, but that they plan more activities during the year.

Other recently elected officers are Ronald Camp, vice-president; Mrs. Jeanette Joyce, secretary; Kenneth Archer, reporter; Galen Irwin, parliamentarian; and Paul Eggerman, historian.

Stormy Returns to Ring Against World Champion

By Clair Goodwin, Jr.

How would it feel if, seemingly overnight, a young man who is working his way through college suddenly happens to become the heavyweight champion of the world? Would the young man feel elated at his sudden fortune, or would he be dazed by the thrill of being world famous? Would his head be turned by the fancy offers that come with the championship, or would he feel out of place in the world of Cadillacs, television, and big money propositions?

These are tricky questions, but there is one young man attending Joplin Junior College who, quite conceivably, could give the answers in a few weeks. His name? J. D. (Stormy) Love, an ex-boxer who is about to take the "ex" out of his pugilistic career. Big J. D. (he's called big because he stands five feet 11 inches, and weighs 210 pounds of solid muscle) has agreed to box World Heavyweight Champion Ingemar Johansson on the latter's upcoming mid-western tour in January.

Thrilled at Prospect

Love says he's elated at the prospect of fighting the world titleholder. "It's a good chance to see how good a boxer I really am," jokes the brawny J. D. "Ingemar's the best in the world."

Johansson's tour was arranged by Love's manager, Max Yeargain of Kansas City. The Swedish champion is scheduled to fight J. D. in Kansas City sometime in January, and, if the Joplin boy can make a good showing, he may be signed for the rest of the tour, Minneapolis, Wichita, Shreveport, and Joplin.

As for J. D.'s chances for the world championship, they're admittedly mighty small. But as Stormy sees it, "It only takes one punch." Should J. D. land one of his lethal right hooks on Johansson's nose, the championship would then be forfeited to Love, according to a prearranged agreement. (For the information of those Doubting Thomases, any time the heavyweight champion steps into the ring for a regularly scheduled fight, his title is at stake.)

When asked what he would do if (make that a capital IF) the title should change hands, J. D. smiled and replied: "I wouldn't

know what to do with the championship. I expect I'd just faint from the shock."

J. D. voluntarily retired from the fight early last year and threatened never to go back. As Love said earlier this season, "I earned only a little more than a thousand dollars in my eight professional fights, and, after being hit by those pros a few times, I decided that the job wasn't worth it. I don't want to end up like one of those punch-drunk boxers that hang around the gym all day and go crazy every time they hear a bell."

However, J. D. has changed his mind since then. "I think I can make more money than I've ever made in my whole career if I get to box Johansson in all of his exhibition fights," he comments happily. "It's the biggest break I've ever had."

To Finish Education

Whatever the outcome of the tour situation, J. D. says he will finish his education. "I don't plan to give up everything I've worked for this semester just on the chance that I might fight Ingemar on this tour," he states. "I hope someday to become a football coach. That's what this whole business is about."

As it may have been surmised by this time, J. D. is no babe in the woods when it comes to the boxing game. The massive Love has fought eight times in the ring professionally, recording seven victories, including six consecutive knockouts. Love's ability in the ring as a puncher has never been doubted. Even Ring magazine,

sometimes called "Boxing's Bible," recognized J. D.'s talents with the glove by naming him the "Top Prospect of the Month" of January of 1959.

But even in the rugged condition he's in after a long football campaign, J. D. admits he's worried about getting in trim for the exhibition fights. "I don't know if I can get back into fighting shape in time for the fights," he reports. "There's a lot of difference between the coordination in boxing and football. When I first went out for football, I felt awkward. That was because I'd lost the coordination that a football player must have. It took me a long time to round into shape. I surely hope it's easier to get back into shape for boxing than it was for football."

One look at J. D.'s physique quiets all comments about his condition. No one could look that muscular and still be out of condition.

In addition to signing for the tour with Johansson, J. D. also signed to fight a St. Louis heavyweight, Rufus Jones, December 9. The fight was held in Joplin's Memorial Hall.

The outlook for J. D.'s return to the ring looks encouraging. As Stormy says, "I'm not losing any sleep over the Johansson fight. I'm so happy that I'm going to just take things as they come."

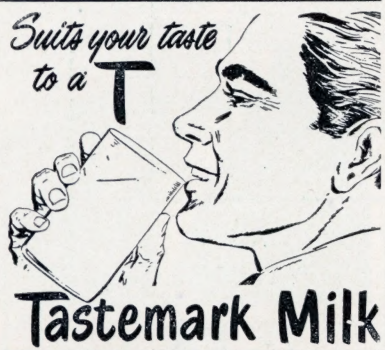
Perhaps this may seem a little carefree to some people, but to those who know Stormy, it is typical of his easy going nature. Johansson may be surprised though, and have a tiger by the tail.

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